

September 17, 2013

To whom it may concern:

I am pleased to write in support of the legislative amendment that would extend Obsolete Property Rehabilitation Act (OPRA) to 4444 Second Avenue and greatly benefit Green Garage LLC. The tax exemptions that The Green Garage would realize through this amendment are vital to its ability to offer affordable work space to the small businesses in their incubator.

Midtown Detroit, Inc. (MDI) is the non-profit community and economic development organization serving the Midtown neighborhood. We work through numerous channels to improve Midtown and foster the growth and development currently underway here. As part of this work, we have created a district plan that calls for historic preservation, improved conditions for green transportation, and an increase in commercial and residential populations.

MDI has worked closely with Green Garage as they have established and grown their Midtown business. Their efforts to restore a historic building and to support environmentally and socially responsible small businesses are aligned with MDI's work and our vision for the neighborhood. They currently house 70 entrepreneurs representing 38 businesses; more than double their initial goal. Green Garage and their support of these innovative businesses are a catalyst for economic activity in Midtown and beyond.

Detroit has a growing number of entrepreneurial small businesses and Green Garage's commitment to supporting such businesses will continue to positively impact the city. Without the tax abatement, Green Garage would need to charge higher rents to their incubator businesses, causing many of them leave Green Garage, or even go out of business. This would be detrimental to Green Garage, Midtown, and the city as whole.

I appreciate your consideration in this matter and am happy to provide any further information if needed.

Sincerely,

Susan T. Mosey

President, Midtown Detroit, Inc.